GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3479
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2007
GAS SUPPLY FROM MYANMAR
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian delegation was told by the Myanmar Government in the first half of March, 2007 that Myanmar wanted to sell the gas to China instead of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Government is satisfied with the reasons given by the Myanmar Government;

(c) whether the refusal by the Myanmar Government will have any adverse effect on the energy security of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (d) : In a meeting at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 16th March 2007, Myanmar Government informed the stakeholders of its A1 & A3 blocks (including GAIL & OVL) that they are considering export of gas discovered in these blocks to China through an on-land pipeline. For the proposed export of gas to China, approximately 1000 KMs long on-land pipeline is proposed to be laid through Myanmar by a Chinese company. The proposed pipeline would be passing through various parts of Myanmar such as major city Mandalay and other areas like Pyi and Upper Myanmar. Myanmar Government expects to use this pipeline for domestic supply of natural gas to important en-route cities. GAIL is pursuing with Myanmar Government for acceptance of GAIL's bid for purchase of pipeline gas from these blocks at Myanmar − India Border as it is economically more attractive as compared to the expected Chinese offer.

As per the report of the Working Group on Petroleum & Natural Gas Sector for the XI Plan, for the year 2011-12, the demand of natural gas has been projected as 279.43 MMSCMD whereas, the total availability under optimistic scenario has been projected as 285.42 MMSCMD. Availability of gas through Transnational Gas Pipelines, including Myanmar-India gas pipeline, has not been taken into account in arriving at the above figures.